Reconstitution of Governing Council of NIOH

1453. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reconstituted governing council of the National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped (NIOH);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government would carefully reconstitute the body so as to ensure that the work of the NIOH does not hamper;

(d) the steps proposed to strengthen NIOH; and

(e) the steps proposed to increase activities of institutions doing work for physically disabled people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As laid down in the Memorandum of Association and Bye-laws of National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped three official, and six non-official members have been nominated in the General Council. The President of General Council is Secretary of this Ministry.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) To increase rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities Governing Council of National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped in its meeting held on 15th February, 2006 has approved following additional professional courses for 2006-07:

(i) Diploma in Rehabilitation Therapy (2 years & 6 months).

(ii) Post Graduate Training in Physiotherapy (2 Years).

Post Graduate Training in Occupational Therapy (2 Years).

(iii) Diploma in PMR (2 Years).

(iv) Diploma in Rehabilitation Nursing (1 Years).

Funds for social sector schemes

1454. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are actively considering a new system of allocating funds for key social sector programmes; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Agreement with railways for barrier-free-railway stations

1455. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have signed any agreement with the Railway to help and advise in creating barrier-free-railways stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) to what extent Government have encouraged the NIOH, Kolkata to stress for creating a barrier-free atmosphere in the Railways;

(d) the details of the steps taken by NIOH, Kolkata in this regard; and

(e) the steps proposed to encourage NIOH, Kolkata to widen its work base on the creation of barrier-free-zones in the country for physically disabled people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Since creation of barrier-free environment in Railways comes under the purview of Ministry of Railways, no specific instructions have been issued to National Institute for the Orthopaedically Hadicapped (NIOH) in this regard.

Enlisting tribes in ST list

1456. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any requests are pending with Government from Andhra Pradesh to enlist some tribes in the ST list;

(b) if so, the details of such tribes; and

(c) the decision taken so far?